

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION AT SHEFFIELD.

(From the London Evening Sun, October 5.)

At the meeting of the Social Science Association, held last evening, Lord Brougham delivered the opening address. There were present a large gathering of members and associates. The place of meeting was the Alexandra Music-hall, which was till recently a theatre, and the new decorations for the occasion had just been completed.

His Lordship, who is in excellent health, read the address with clearness and emphasis, and was warmly applauded.

"Once more I have the satisfaction of meeting my old Yorkshire constituents, and of re-creating the most prized distinction of my life—the representation of this great county the last time it chose its members undivided and entire. This is now our ninth Congress, and we have, as is our usual lot, to lament the losses which we, the country, and the world at large have sustained since we met at York. First to be named is Richard Cobden, of whose great services not England only, but France also, has been witness and felt justly grateful. We may also dwell on the removal of one far less famous, but to whom the promoters of social science felt their gratitude especially due as amongst the greatest helps to the diffusion of knowledge on all subjects secular and religious—John Cassell, whose circulation of useful works at the lowest price, to which he devoted his life, was prodigious. Of the Illustrated Bible 60,000,000 were sold in weekly numbers, making the poor man's cottage, as he boasted, a school of instruction. But, happily, his surviving partners, Petter and Galpin, pursue the same course in which they were his able and zealous helpers. Nor is it possible in this time to forget the heavy loss which at our last Congress we had hoped to escape, but which soon after befell us, of Lord Arlcliffe, than whom a more virtuous person, or in all his positions one more useful, did not exist. On these losses we may use the touching words in which the Royal Psalmist poured out his sorrow—"We shall go to them, although they shall not return to us." (2 Samuel, xii. 25.) There is, however, much upon which to congratulate the association since our last Congress, both on our labours and on the course of events. And as we then expressed satisfaction at the calming down of party, both in Parliament and the country, we can now still more fully give vent to the same feelings, not only from its stillness in high quarters, but because the general election has taken place, and certainly has evinced a more entire absence of party and personal animosity than marks our history since the period of the Revolution. By this calm the pursuits that are dear to us are greatly benefited, and are likely to profit by its continuance. Even where the public tranquillity has been slightly ruffled, the great cause of social progress has made considerable gain. The loss of some valuable members to Parliament, of which the greatest are those of Mr. George Denman and Mr. Adam Black, has been compensated by the election of men only known for their able treatment of philosophical questions, like our colleagues Professor Fawcett and Mr. Stuart Mill, or our distinguished vice-president of the Jurisprudence Department, Mr. Forster, who unites to his forensic talents a foremost place among the most accomplished scholars of the age. In reckoning our gains at the late elections, it is highly satisfactory to reflect on the considerable diminution of bribery and corruption. Of this there can be little doubt; but still there remained enough to justify all friends of public morals, and indeed of our national character, in desiring more effectual means to be taken for the extinction of practices so disgraceful. Last year the measures which would have proved effectual for this purpose, sending those convicted to the treadmill, and requiring a solemn declaration from every member on taking his seat that he had no knowledge or suspicion of any such practices having been pursued at his expense, were stopped on the ground that the dissolution had been postponed, and this year on the eve of an immediate general election, those measures were again withheld, while Sir Fitzroy Kelly's bill enabling parties charged with any offence to tender their evidence, undergoing cross-examination, met with such treatment in the Commons that he could not press it to a division. It is not to be told what a centre falls upon the English people in foreign countries when the enormous sums spent at our elections are mentioned, and that expenditure is truly disgraceful which may still be incurred without any corruption. The cost of returning Mr. Stuart Mill for Westminster exceeded £1500 for ten days. The expenses of candidates in some cases amounted to £300 or £400 a day while the dissolution was impending, and as much as £17,000 was positively stated to have been paid by a candidate for Yorkshire some years ago in preparing for a contest which never took place. Sir F. Kelly's Act, appointing election auditors, had not then passed. It is far from sufficient to be taken for the extinction of the abuses practices which in too many cases are a mere cloak for bribery. The late elections and the aspect of the returns as regards the Liberal party lead us naturally to think of the prospect held out of a further extension of the franchise to the working classes. The alarm felt or affected of their overwhelming the rest of the community is probably groundless, although all our friends must desire any change to be effected gradually, and under the guidance of experience. The expediency of giving votes to one class really can admit of no doubt—the class of skilled workmen, who are, in fact, more independent of their employers than those of the unskilled. Why should not all who receive at any time a certain amount of wages be registered as voters once and for ever? The certificate of the employer would be a test of the workman's respectability, and that would continue, whatever might be his subsequent employment. The expediency of giving non-electors some share in the elections was considered in York, and there seemed no sufficient objection to allow the show of hands some weight, by requiring whoever had it not to exceed those who had it by a certain proportion at the poll. The proposal of Professor Leoni Levi well deserves the attention of those who are still for the ballot—the votes should be given in writing, signed by the voter in his own hand, so as to secure a certain amount of education. Those who treat of Reform prospects and projects are but imperfectly acquainted with the history of the great Reform of 1832 in its earlier stages, and would find there had been much more extensive changes than not only contemplated, but which met with acceptance. Of the proverbial inaccuracy of contemporary history there is a remarkable instance in Lord Russell's account of the Reform of 1832, and all mention is suppressed of the great meeting of the Opposition

at Lord Althorpe's chambers, to consider the plan of which I had given notice, and which was to have been brought forward two days after, had not the change of Administration occurred to prevent it. There were present at the meeting, either owners of close boroughs or connections, as Lord Milton, Mr. Baring, afterwards Lord Ashburton; and, besides my statement of the most important parts of the Reform afterwards propounded by the new Ministry, there was household suffrage propounded in express terms, and though only half the seats for close boroughs were to be taken away, yet a larger number of the great towns were to be enfranchised than the Government Bill afterwards provided for. It must be observed that the late times have shown, even during the heats of the election, no disposition on the part of the people for a reform in their representation. It would be difficult to point out any period since 1832 in which the subject so little engaged the public attention. But that would be no reason against well-considered and moderate changes, and the promoters of social science will regard any proposed measure with a view to its effects upon the different classes of the community, and upon the representative part of the Legislature, whether that measure is called for by the popular voice or not. To those changes which have been above suggested may possibly be added a new construction of the electoral districts, so as to remove in some degree the extreme irregularity now existing. But this is a matter of great difficulty, and certainly a general equalisation may be pronounced on every account altogether unadvisable. In referring to Reform of Parliament, it is impossible to pass over the great expediency, indeed it may be termed the absolute necessity, of some change in the conduct of what is called private business or Bills, those Acts not only affecting property of vast amount, but conferring what Lord Langdale used justly to term transcendental powers. This branch of the proceedings is that by which Parliament is chiefly known to the community, and no doubt considerable improvement has of late years been made in the conducting it. But the greatest of all the evils felt has been left unassailed, the necessity of every one particular in each bill undergoing the same inquiry in both Houses, so as almost to double the expenses of all parties. With that great man, whose irreparable loss we daily deplore on all questions, whether of foreign or of domestic policy, whether of peace or of war (it is superfluous to name the Duke of Wellington), it was my lot to co-operate on this subject, having with him brought forward those standing orders which now regulate the private business before both Houses, and which were introduced in a committee of the Lords. When they were to be promulgated there my illustrious friend said, "Why not bring forward our great plan?" My answer was, "Because it would be certainly refused by the committee." "Never mind," he said, "we can but be beaten, and then we fall back upon the lesser and ineffectual plan." The great measure was offered and refused under the influence of professional men, who saw that it would cut off nearly half of their services. It consisted in the appointment of a joint committee—seven commoners and four peers, acting with the assistance of a professional judge or assessor, to help them on questions of law respecting evidence; and the questions of law respecting evidence, and the report to be in each House decided on all matters of fact, but leaving to the House its full discretion upon the whole bill and all its provisions. This is not the first time that the plan has been mentioned before our Association, and in connexion with the great man's name who took such an interest in it, and who, indeed, mainly contributed to its preparation. But it is a sacred duty to his memory that so important a portion of his history should be preserved and continually held up to the admiration of his grateful countrymen. He unfortunately took an erroneous view of Reform in the representation, and he maintained his opinion strongly, being deeply impressed with the belief that the proposed change in the constitution of the Lower House would dangerously interfere with the Executive Government—that it was too large a measure to be adopted at once. His joining, therefore, in so radical an alteration of the legislative procedure was the more important, and is one, though among the least, of the many proofs that he is to be named among the foremost of our statesmen as he is at the head of all our warriors.

"Statesman and warrior, he lived and died, where duty placed him, at his country's side; Tread with firm foot the line which justice draws, Fixed to prevail, or perish in her cause."—Cooper.

It was highly satisfactory at our last Congress to mark the success of the great co-operative movement in the increase of the number of the societies and their resources. That progress has continued, although not at the rate of former years; and as this diminution has partly arisen from the increased rigour of the rules established, and the arrangements enforced with the view to profit, an advantage has been gained; except, perhaps, that too great parsimony has been shown in the payment of those employed. It was, however, impossible that the same rate of increase should continue which had been exhibited in 1860 and 1861, when no less than 250 new societies had been formed. In 1863 there were in all, 454, whose sales in the year amounted to £2,626,000, and their profit divided was £219,000. Mr. Pratt's return for the last year (1864) is 505 societies, their sales £2,742,000, and profit £228,000. The counties of York and Lancaster continue to take the lead, as of the number of 505 Lancashire has no less than 130, and this county 104. One cannot avoid recollecting the saying of a Rochdale tradesman, when a few workmen advanced a little money to establish a store; he said he should be able to carry it all in his wheelbarrow, and now the assets of the societies are returned at £891,000, and their cash in the bank and in the hands of their treasurers at £105,000. It must be added that the strong recommendation given in York to employ co-operation in agriculture, and the signal success of Mr. Gordon's experiment in Suffolk, have had their effect in Ireland, where on the Vandelure property there is every probability that the same would have followed but for the unfortunate insolvency of the landlord. As far as it went, nothing could be more satisfactory. Mr. Craig, its able superintendent, states that when the co-operation had been continued some time, the greatest improvement had taken place, both in the comfort and moral condition of the inhabitants, although they at first had taken against it hostile proceedings, which were even taken to the length of a breach of the peace. The cause of co-operation in all its branches owes almost everything to Mr. Pittman, whose constant exertions and self-sacrifice cannot be too gratefully acknowledged by all co-operative societies, and their efforts are justly required to aid him in his great work, the conduct of the "co-operator." Nothing can be more gratifying in all respects than the spread and success of co-operation, both as regards the comfort and improvement of the people, and if the middle

classes have gained much, the working classes have had a larger share in the benefit. The question then naturally occurs, and it was asked in the course of the general election, are these classes, preponderant for their labours as well as their numbers, to remain for ever excluded from a direct share in the choice of our representatives? And this question has been received by some with indifference, by others with contempt, and by not a few with proposals, the cause of alarm to most persons. But there is one view which does not appear to have been taken by any of the reasons on the subject, and it is peculiarly addressed to the promoters of Social Science, because it applies to the great cause of progress in all its branches. The working-classes generally, and even a large proportion of the middle order, are prone to be too earnest, and even impatient, for the adoption of measures which they deem necessary or expedient. They do not give them due consideration; they do not perceive the checks which experience has shown to be required for securing safety and conformity with other institutions. The lesson is slowly learned which these classes have never understood, or only apprehended to make it an object of ridicule or clamour, how much of the best of laws may be the result of compromise or mutual concession, and how often the carrying through any measure, the most important and beneficial, such compromise has not only been expedient but necessary; nay, how much the whole of our social system has been a succession of compromises. In considering any of the proposals for extending the Parliamentary suffrage, this circumstance of prevailing importance is to be well considered, and we, of the National Association, are fully aware of its great influence over our supporters in the community. It must ever be kept in mind that the primary object of co-operation is self-help, the enabling the working man to obtain his goods of the best quality and at the lowest price, to gain him fair wages, and to secure his share in the profits arising from his labour. His gains are as far as possible employed in the education of his children and his own improvement. In this he may be assisted by his wealthier neighbours, and in providing for his relaxation and social intercourse during the hours of his rest. The want of room in his house often obliges him to attend a club, and therefore the best assistance that can be rendered him is to facilitate the forming of clubs, which among other advantages have the great merit of coming in competition with the ale-house. Accordingly, three years ago, there was formed in connection with our association the Working Men's Club Institute, and its operations have been very successful in enabling working men all over the country to form clubs. In all cases the object has been the relaxation and social intercourse of the day labourers. Our colleague, Lord Lytton, and others, have strenuously supported the Institute, whose able and diligent secretary, Mr. Solly, has attended our Congress. It must be added that nothing can be more erroneous than the notion prevailing in some quarters that the object of these clubs is for education and other matters of use to the working-classes. These may arise out of them, but the main object is to give the labourers that amusement and relaxation which they require after work. In all my addresses as president of the institute, what has been dwelt upon is relaxation and amusement as the primary objects. This has been the fundamental doctrine, admitting the necessity of harmless amusement to meet after their day's work. It is most satisfactory to find that our colleague, Lord Stanley, has lately inculcated this at the Birkenhead co-operative meeting, and it is only to be regretted that he had not attended at York, where the same subject was more than once under the consideration of the Congress, and a paper read upon the subject by the secretary of the institute. In our Congress at York the subject had occupied us the year before at Edinburgh, of female education as connected with the University examinations, was resumed. Some difference of opinion was occasioned by the mistake that the proposal concerned degrees for females; whereas it was certain that this could not be the case, the examination conferring no degrees at all, as had been fully stated by Mr. Hastings at a preliminary meeting. But, fortunately, the University of Cambridge received most favourably the memorial, signed by a thousand persons connected with education, as well as many others, including some of the most prominent and active members of our own Association. The memorial was presented towards the end of last year, and the question was referred to a special Syndicate, who, after a careful consideration, made a report recommending the proposed extension. In accordance with this a grace of the Senate was passed, giving effect to the recommendation of the Syndicate. The scheme is to keep in force as a tentative measure for three years, at the expiration of which there is every reason to believe that it will be made permanent. In the meantime ladies' committees are arranged for the superintendence of the examinations at several of the local centres, and the promise of candidates is already very considerable. Of the complete success of the movement it is scarcely possible to entertain a doubt. The direct result of examination cannot fail to be most beneficial, and the moral value of such a recognition by one of our old Universities of the importance of female education is likely to be still more widely and deeply felt. The success of the new system of education in Ireland is a just subject for congratulation, and the rather because an attempt was made by the clerical and other bigots to represent it as a failure. The principle at all times urged by our association, of combining secular and religious teaching has been applied, and the result is given in the papers before Parliament. In the year 1849-50, when the Queen's Colleges were established at Belfast, Cork, and Galway, the number of pupils was 395, and last year they were 837. But in Cork and Galway the increase has been much greater than in Belfast, because there education had begun sooner. Notwithstanding the population of Galway has fallen one-half in the time, the number of pupils has nearly doubled. The number belonging to the Methodist Church is only one-fourth of the whole in the three colleges. It must be added that Mr. Whiteside, the representative of Dublin University (Trinity College), with distinguished candour and consummate ability, opposed those who argued that the measure had been a failure. Mention has been made of the great step taken by the Universities of Cambridge and Edinburgh in favour of female education. What has been done by certain benevolent persons belongs rather to the head of charity than education. Yet is it very important. A hall has been set up for poor sempstresses, who may work there instead of those wretched garrets to which they are generally confined, and the addition of a cooking apparatus is a great improvement. There is no more praiseworthy employment of the funds which charitable individuals allot to that unhappy class of their fellow-citizens, and the suggestion of Mrs. Way is very important—that teaching the sewing machine is greatly

wanted for the class of sempstresses. But the greatest benefit rendered to these poor women is from the companies that have been formed by the principal ladies in London and the dress-makers, with limited liability, for homes under strict regulations, and which have succeeded in an extraordinary manner. One of these companies is in Clifford-street, Bond-street, the other in Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, and these divide upon their profits. In Edinburgh the society for great good is extending the resources of their labour. In the branch of photography the success has been perfect. The Commission upon schools issued on the recommendation of our Council has not yet made its report, but it has been actively engaged in the important work. It is much to be regretted that Mr. Chadwick was not named among the commissioners, as his acquaintance with the subject exceeds that of most men, and he is the founder of that valuable improvement, the half-time plan. The commissioners have appointed ten assistants, who examine the schools and their method of teaching in the different districts of this country, as well as in America and on the continent of Europe. In this country circulars of questions have been issued to 845 endowed and 152 proprietary schools; and answers have been fully examined. The commissioners have sat thirty-five days, and are to resume their sittings for further examination of witnesses in November. It is impossible to doubt that a great body of information, both as to this and to other countries, will be collected, and many useful suggestions made. Mr. H. Roby is their able and diligent secretary. We have great reason to be thankful for the acceptance of the most important plan of law amendment. The act giving suitable jurisdiction to county courts has been for many years strongly urged by us. Indeed that jurisdiction was part of the original Local Courts Bill, and the committee to which it was referred in 1830 partially accepted that provision. But in 1855 an elaborate bill was introduced by the late Lord Campbell. This equitable extension has been year after year attempted by us, and is at length carried to a certain extent. The great subject of a Law Digest was handled by Sir James Wilde in his most admirable address at York, and has been subsequently discussed at our meetings, and an able paper upon it was read by Mr. Reilly. It cannot be said that no progress has been made towards the attainment of this object, for the House of Commons has voted £5000 towards the expenses of it, and constant and active work has been bestowed upon the kindred task of selecting for repeal all the statutory provisions which are in fact inoperative, but still continue upon the Statute Book. It must be added that the work of digesting and consolidating the laws has been undertaken at New York, and is proceeding under the superintendence of our corresponding member, Mr. Dudley Field. At our last Congress Mr. G. Denman undertook to bring in a bill for removing the anomaly in our procedure, of counsel not being allowed in criminal the privilege given in civil cases of summing up the evidence adduced. He did so, and the Act being passed last session the anomaly no longer exists. The failure of Sir F. Kelly to amend the law of evidence has been mentioned. That amendment, which the Judge Ordinary of the Divorce Court strongly recommended, the enabling parties to be examined, which had been omitted in my Act of 1849, was part of Sir Fitzroy's bill. The chief objection to that and to the examination of defendants in criminal cases were the same that had been urged against the greatest amendment of the law in modern times, the examination of parties in civil cases, and it may fairly be expected that those objections will no longer be allowed to prevail. One great improvement has, however, taken place in this branch of the law, the natural extension of limited liability, at all times strongly supported by us. An Act passed last session excluding from the responsibility of partnership those who lend money to traders and men who receive payment for their services, but who do not take any share in the profits to which they have contributed. This is a great benefit, not only to the workman, but to his employer, and to traders as well. But much has been done for the working man without any parliamentary proceedings. The repeated and earnest expressions of opinion by our body to their employers has continued to receive their full consideration, and those whom we extolled at York and Edinburgh for their kindly conduct, and especially the Messrs. Chambers, have been reducing the hours of labour to ten, and this has become a general movement. The early closing of which Leeds was so great and so early an example has been more generally followed, and it is very probable that in both these relaxations the loss in hours of labour will be compensated by the more healthy state of the men and their more diligent working. The report of the select committee of the House of Commons on the bankruptcy law has been made public during the past session, and we find that it recommends substantially the adoption of the Scotch plan of trustees chosen by the creditors, and their proceedings referred to the ordinary courts instead of a separate tribunal. That some amendment in this branch of the law is loudly called for by the whole body of traders there can be no manner of doubt, and it may be hoped that the discussion in our Jurisprudence Department will assist the public in arriving at a conclusion as to what the amendment should be. The Commission on the Patent Law has also reported since our last Congress, recommending various modifications in the existing system, but admitting that the change would only palliate the evils complained of. Opinions have since been expressed favourable to the repeal of the statute of James I., or the abolition of the rights conferred on inventors. This is a subject of great difficulty. That there are grave objections to the inventor's rights as at present exercised may be true, but his exclusion from the monopoly he now enjoys is extremely hard to be distinguished from that which would deprive authors of their copyright. The concentration of the superior courts and their offices in one place has happily been established after a delay of thirty years, and the exertions of our association have powerfully contributed to a measure which was so much required by the mercantile community, and not resisted upon any solid ground by the legal profession. The commission on capital punishments has now closed its labours, and though the report is not yet made public, there can be no doubt that a great and useful body of information has been collected with respect to the operation of the law both in this and foreign countries. We had a most interesting discussion on the subject at York, and under Mr. Gurney, and its secretaries, Messrs. Tallach and Beggs. An able paper of the latter came before us at York; and no doubt that society has been usefully employed in circulating information on the subject, and in promoting the discussion of it. But whatever difference of opinion there may be on the great question of capital punishment, there can be none upon the necessity of giving the Home-

office an efficient help of counsellors, as this association has so often recommended. On this head of criminal law it must be added that there is in all cases far too great a disposition to regard intoxication as a circumstance of mitigation, whereas it is really an aggravation. There are even reasons for regarding a diseased general habit of mind, induced by intemperance, in the same light of an aggravation, and certainly it ought never to be reckoned among circumstances of extenuation. Our esteemed colleague, Lord Clanricarde, having obtained a Commission on the Irish Law Courts, found that two bills were introduced by the Government to assimilate the practice in both countries—the one for equity, the other for common law. But these were vehemently opposed, and not passed. But in last session only the Equity Bill was introduced, and though the opposition was withdrawn, the bill was not passed. The Government had at that time no Irish law officers in the House. In the new Parliament they have both the Attorney and Solicitor General and the Castle adviser in the House of Commons, and Lord Clanricarde hopes that the result will be complete, as well of consolidating the three common law courts as of reducing the number of their officers, for whom there is really little business to do. The subject of recording titles to landed estates was fully discussed at our meetings upon papers by Messrs. Torrens and Robert Wilson, and an Act was passed last session for recording such titles in Ireland through the machinery of the Estates Court. Nothing can be more satisfactory than the proceedings of last year with respect to the reformatory system, and credit is due to the Home Department, of which we formerly had reason to complain. The great changes which have been effected are entirely in accordance with the views often urged by the association and its supporters. In the class of penal servitude, the subdivision of large prisons, the introduction of the mark system, the reduction of the excessive gratuities, and of the dietary, the use of photography, and the giving police superintendence (beneficial not only to the public at large, but to the convicts themselves), are great and important improvements; and these, together with the use of intermediate prisons in certain cases, have approached the Irish to our own. But there has been great improvement in the convict prisons for minor offences; and an Act passed last session has been executed most beneficially by the Home Department. All these changes have received the full approbation of the Prison Directors, whose report has been published, and who bear their testimony to the excellent effect of the various changes on which they comment. It is very important that the absence of Sir Walter Crofton is well supplied by his able successor, and has been so far from injuring his system, that this has been consolidated by time, and its details are perfected by experience. The great principle has now received the full effect that the term of punishment should be lessened merely by the convict's conduct since his imprisonment, but by his subsequent conduct until the supervision now first actually exercised under the ticket of leave has expired. This supervision of his entire liberation has had all the success that could be expected from it. The defect which experience shows in the existing regulations for suspension depends upon the absence of connexion between the police force at different stations. The improvement in the discipline of county and borough gaols urged by Lord Carnarvon and effected by the gratuitous labours of Sir Walter Crofton, will be sufficient for the reformation of the convicts, provided that drawback shall cease which at present exists, the term of confinement not being shortened in those prisons by the convict's behaviour. These and many other matters will, it is to be hoped, receive full consideration at this Congress, as our invaluable colleague, the Recorder of Birmingham, if he shall unfortunately be unable to attend, will certainly communicate the result of his residence in Ireland, and also his opinion upon the working of the Liverpool Act, passed last session, for enlarging the powers of grand juries in sanitary cases—an Act which ought to be extended to other towns. We shall also have the advantage of the presence of Miss Carpenter, whose recent work on "Our Convicts" contains the fullest account of the whole subject. The threatnings of another visitation of cholera gives rise to a meeting under the sanction of our council, and presided over by the Bishop of London. The whole subject was fully discussed, and an elaborate report presented by the Committee of Health Department. While all has been proceeding satisfactorily in legislation since our last Congress, it is gratifying to find that considerable progress has also been made by our rulers, and especially our Finance Minister, for the benefit of trade. The negotiations with France have had the happiest results for both countries—for our neighbours as well as ourselves; their alarm lest importation from us would interfere with their manufactures having been proved groundless by the exportation to this country of their own wares. Similar treaties have been made with other countries, as with Belgium and Italy, while one with Austria may reasonably be expected. Our foreign commerce has nearly doubled in five years as regards France, and our paper-makers, who were the most alarmed, have not in any instance ceased to carry on the business, while the amount of paper made has been steadily increasing. But the Post-office accommodation to savings-banks has been an incalculable benefit to the humbler classes. Above 3000 of these have been established, the permanent deposits in which is nearly six millions, and almost all in sums under £5. This is exclusive of those in former banks. While everything has been so prosperous with us, it must be admitted that, with few exceptions, in foreign countries a like prosperity has existed. In Russia the emancipation of the serfs has been vigorously enforced. The kingdom of Italy has been recognised by Spain, and it may be hoped that the treaty of September, 1864, will at length satisfy the Court of Rome. The Italian Parliament is dissolved, and a general election takes place immediately. Nor can the patriot friend of Italy wish her a greater good than that the new Parliament may in all but its great difficulties resemble the old, which for firmness, moderation, and tolerance was a model to representative bodies. The Island of Cuba has taken steps towards the abolition of slavery; and at Madrid a disposition to favour the colonists has been indicated by the formation of emancipation societies and the establishment of journals in their behalf. The termination of war in America must give all our friends and supporters the greatest satisfaction. It was never regarded by us as anything but a grievous calamity, and we hoped that out of evil good might come to the slave, although it was clear that the same emancipation by the North had only been a measure of hostility, and the support of slavery, that utterly execrable institution, by the South only a partial cause of the secession. But the condition in which the war has left the country, especially the South, is painful to contemplate, as the difficulties of the

Government are great and numerous. There seems, however, reason to believe that the President has resolved upon temperate measures towards the defeated Confederates, and all must admire the courage and the skill by which the victory has been gained, while both parties have alike distinguished themselves in the war, the South having lost General Lee, while Sherman, on the side of the North, is justly admired. The great difficulty arising from the slaves would have been much lessened, if not wholly avoided, had the measure of emancipation been gradual like ours. They might then have had to show their coloured people engaged in free labour, as we have had no less than 100,000 so employed in our colonies. Europe has been astonished and shocked at the seizure of the Danish territories by force and fraud, a crime of which the partition of Poland affords the last example. But the great crime of the last century was on a far larger scale; the late atrocity, both in its amount and in its tricks, bears the same relation to it that petty larceny bears to highway robbery. The chief blame in all respects is that of Prussia, and the probability is that the wrong-doers will find their folly to have exceeded even their guilt. It must, however, be admitted that in his domestic affairs the Austrian ruler has shown generosity as well as wisdom by his treatment of Hungary; and it is confidently believed that the new Cabinet has determined upon the most important measure that has been introduced on the Continent—the creation of an unpaid local magistracy similar to our own. This would be by far the greatest benefit that could be conferred upon the country, and the Emperor and his Ministers would gain immortal honour from it. In Prussia no such home improvements in the home administration are to be set off against the foreign misdeeds of the Government. On the contrary, there has been the wholesale violation of the Constitution in a series of oppressive acts ending in the prosecution of senators for words spoken in debate, at a moment when the king was a Minister, and suffered to commit murder without being brought to trial. It is highly satisfactory to find that our French neighbours have gained a material advantage in the freedom allowed to their municipal elections, and we may reasonably expect a like determination to abstain from Government interference with the far more important election of deputies. Meanwhile, we must all heartily rejoice in the cordial amity between the two States; the subjection of ideas of military glory to the useful object of pursuing material interests; the reduction of the standing army and the enjoyments of the blessings which a solid peace secures to both countries. The time appointed for our Congress unfortunately deprived us of the presence of our foreign associates at York. But M. Desmarest came over to London at the beginning of winter, and attended our meetings with Mr. Berryer. It is needless to say that their reception was most cordial, but, indeed, Berryer, alike eminent at the Bar and the Senate, had in all quarters, from the Ministers as well as from the people, a reception worthy of his great celebrity, and which gave the highest satisfaction to all parties in the country of that illustrious man. We last year testified our great respect for Mr. Peabody by electing him an honorary member, the only one on our list. His great and wise munificence is the theme of universal admiration. But the last year affords an example of generosity of a like, we need not say an equal extent in the great Hindoo of Bombay, Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy. If the princely wealth of such men is to be envied a far greater subject of envy is the extraordinary wisdom and generosity by which its application is guided. The kindred association which was founded at Brussels in 1862 held this year its Congress at Bern, and was attended by Mr. Hastings on our part. He will doubtless report what there passed. Neither he nor any other of our body took any share in those Alpine ascents which have this autumn been attended with so much loss of life, and without the possibility of any good, by mere displays of hardihood in climbing to heights whence nothing was to be seen. The promoter of Social Science deeply laments the loss to families in such displays of useless courage and perseverance, but his contemplations are directed elsewhere. We are pleased to contemplate the flowers in their raiment surpassing all the glories of Solomon. To examine the animal creation in its endless variety of instincts, each adapted wondrously to accomplish its purpose; to observe the members of the human family, the capacity of individuals to unfold the powers of the universe and subdue to our use the elements of light and electricity. But the social aptitudes of man are yet more worthy of our study, and the communities which he forms, and which are the especial objects of the Divine care. Social Science, then, has pre-eminently claims to our regard, and promoting it is our highest duty to our Heavenly Father. That duty we delight to perform, rejoicing to be the instruments of His justice and mercy, and devoutly thankful to His goodness, which makes what He commands a pleasure to obey."

Earl Fitzwilliam proposed a vote of thanks to the man whose life was still devoted to public duty with as much earnestness as it was fifty years ago.

The Mayor seconded the motion. Mr. Hadfield supported it, and it was passed with acclamation.

MOVING PHOTOGRAPHS.—Many years ago M. Plateau invented a curious apparatus, called the phenakistoscope, in which, on viewing through a slit the figures drawn in a circle on the revolving disk, we see them moving, playing at leopards, and performing all kinds of antics: a phenomenon owing to that peculiar property of the retina which consists in retaining for a short time the impression or sensation of the image which has struck it. M. Claudet, in endeavouring to combine the effects of the phenakistoscope with those of the stereoscope, has found the means of obtaining the illusion of moving figures so as to make each figure complete a certain action, but without stereoscopic effect; being indeed only half the desired solution, but still highly remarkable. Suppose two boxes, one represented in the act of preparing to hit his opponent, and the other in the act of striking the blow. These are only the extreme positions of the act of pugilism, but if the eye perceives the first, and immediately afterwards the second, the mind completes the action and we see the pugilist actually hit the blow. To attain this result M. Claudet has arranged a stereoscope in such a manner that by means of a slide with one hole, in which, by moving it rapidly in a reciprocating horizontal direction, shut one lens while the other remains open; and in continuing that motion, while one eye sees one of the two pictures, the second eye cannot see the other picture. Now, if before the sensation of one eye is exhausted the slide shuts the lens and opens the other, a new impression is produced on the retina, and we have an interrupted sensation of vision, as if the object had moved before us; and if a sufficient number of pictures representing that object in the various consecutive positions it has assumed during several stages of its motion, we experience on the retina the same sensation that we have when we see the object actually moving. Moreover, we see the object without delay or interruption, whether by the right or the left eye; and we cannot even distinguish which is the eye that has had the preponderant vision. M. Claudet employs eight different photographs representing as many different stages of the action, by arranging them on the four faces of two cubes revolving together on a common axis parallel to those faces, and in that way the illusion is complete.

DAY, Monday, 8th January, at 11 o'clock.
Furniture, clocks, jewellery, and sundries.
Terms, cash.

WANTED, a Female COOK, Cook and Laundress, strong Youth. J. C. Glue, Pitt-street.

WANTED, for a butcher, a MAN able to make small goods; Carpenter, Man to pull a boat, garden, &c.; Maids, Garden Labourers, Married Domestic Couples, Farmers, Farm Overseers with a Boy; useful Boys, several male Servants for town and country. W. Brown, Agent, 207, Pitt-street.

APARTMENTS vacant, suitable for four gentlemen of a party. 138, Castleburgh-st. N., next Victoria Club.

APARTMENTS VACANT, at Holyrood House, York and Margaret streets, Wynyard-q. West. Baths.

APARTMENTS.—Suite of Apartments, for a family or gentlemen. Mrs. Wright, 187, Premier-ter., William-st.

APARTMENTS vacant; private board, and bath-room. No. 3, Wynyard-square, opposite Post Office.

PARTMENTS.—Suites of Apartments vacant at Mrs. Brady's, St. Kilda House, Woolloomooloo.

PARTMENTS VACANT. for a lady and gentleman, or two gentlemen. 2, Tyrone-place, Essex-street.

HANDSOME Suite of **APARTMENTS** now vacant.

Westworth House, Church-hill. Bath. New vacant.
LARGE BEDROOM for a Gentleman, or two friends; partial board; bath. 8, Wyndham-street.
BOARD AND RESIDENCE, terms strictly moderate. 119, Prince-street.
BOARD AND RESIDENCE. Mr. Dobson's, 221, Castle-street, near Market-st. Terms moderate.
EDROOM, furnished, vacant. 285, Blenheim-street, opposite Racecourse, near Liverpool-street.
BOARD AND Residence. Mr. ELDER'S, 294 and 295, Castle-street, n. near Park-st. Terms moderate.
WALMALN EAST.—To LET, a 2-roomed COTTAGE

ALMAIN EAST.—10 LET, 8-roomed COTTAGE, with kitchen, pantry, and servants' room; verandah back and garden; a good view of the harbour, plenty of water, and every convenience. J. Locke.

ALMAIN.—To be LET, MAXWELTON VILLA, five rooms, hall, kitchen, pantry, verandah back and garden; a large yard, two-stall stable, garden (well stocked with trees), and a never-failing supply of excellent water. To be let with or without a clover paddock. Within ten minutes' walk of either ferry, or two minutes of the omnibus. Apply James Barr, Elliot-street.

COMFORTABLE Board and Lodging for three respectable young men. Terms 21 per week. 103, Prince-st.

COMFORTABLE BOARD and RESIDENCE. 127, Prince-street, Church-hill.

CHARLINGHURST.—To LET, No. 1, Kales-street, For cards apply S. Fuller, 286, Pitt-street.

FURNISHED BEDROOM for a single gentleman. 100, Liverpool-street, near Pitt-street. Terms 7s.

LEWISTOWN.—APARTMENTS vacant, for one or two

NEW TOWN.—**“PATRIOT”** is vacant, for one or two gentlemen. Card, Mr. Forrester, 571, George-street.

PACIFIC INSURANCE COMPANY.—The Company are open to negotiate for the unexpired term of LEASE of their present Premises—say to May, 1867, to C. M. Smith, Manager.

DOUBLE TWO HOUSES in Barker-street. Apply to Mr. Burgess, Coasters' Arms, at the corner.

TO LET, the old JOHN BULL INN, South Sydney. For particulars, apply to Mr. Birch, near door.

O LET, a superior small suburban HOUSE, low rent, W. THURLOW, King-street East.

O LET, a four-roomed HOUSE, Darlinghurst; water en, and taxes paid. Mr. Hodge, 221, Pitt-street.

O LET; BOARDING-HOUSE, well furnished, central, and healthful; terms low. B. 475, George-st.

O LET, a genteel Family RESIDENCE. Apply Mr. J. S. Jones, Derwent-street, Glebe.

O LET, 38, Bank-street, Chippendale, five ROOMS,

O LET, comfortable Family HOUSE, 10 rooms, all conveniences; very low rent. 18, Wynyard-square, by at Monster Clothing Hall, George-street.

O LET, in North-terrace, Macquarie-street, the HOUSE lately occupied by Dr. Brerston. Apply at HERALD Office.

O LET, 193, North-terrace, Macquarie-street, near the Australian Library. Apply to J. Grafton Ross, No. 193, North-terrace.

O LET, Randwick COTTAGE, five rooms, kitchen, water, garden, and use of paddock, most beautifully situated. Apply to Mr. Woolcott, Bridge-street.

O LET, that comfortable Family HOUSE, two doors from Town Hall, 7, Wynyard-square, Low rent, by Raphael's, 22, Wynyard-square.

O LET, in Baylis-street, South Wagon Wagon, a commodious STORE, nearly completed. For full particulars apply to Michael Maher, jun., Taracotta-street.

TO LET, Verandah COTTAGE, situated St. Germaine, corner Hereford-street, Glebe height. Apply the premises, or to James Anderson, insurance agent, George-street.

TO BE LET, the BILLY BLUE'S INN, at North Shore; has undergone thorough repairs, and is well fitted for a Grocery or Drapery Store; low rent to a good tenant. Apply to Billyard and Curtis 32, Hunter-street.

TO LET. 792, George-street, those spacious premises

O LET, at Belmont East, adjoining Little's Cottage, having an excellent view of the Harbour, a HOUSE, containing six rooms, garden, well, &c. Apply to J. G. MALAKO, Batha, Domain.

O LET, an old-established PUBLIC-HOUSE, doing a first-rate business—a complete bargain, no bones, very moderate. Apply H. Vaughan, 141, King-street

O LET, that very comfortable Family HOUSE, with immense paddock at the rear, all securely fenced in, near Goulburn and Macquarie streets south, for a term, low rent. Apply to Raphael, Wynyard-square.

O LET, two new SHOPS, in Dowling-street; rent, 25s per week. Apply Mr. Halsden, at the corner of Colleenook-road; or Mr. Yeomans, 256, Ellens-street.

O LET First class PREMISES 202 and 212 Pitt-

O LET, First-class PREMISES, 208 and 212, Pitt-st; Shop, 60 feet long, with back skylights; also, various Stores, and cart entrance, if required. Apply Uther, 333, Crown-street, Surry Hills.

O LET, first-class Dry CELLARS, also second-floor OFFICES in the new premises of the Pacific Insurance Company, Pitt-street North. Entrances about lastuary, 1866. Apply to the undersigned. C. M. Smith, sgr.

O LET, HOUSE, No. 28, in Bridge-street, adjoining Mr. T. C. Street's, weighing: see, undersigned

O LET, that capital Grazing FARM, the Riverstone Estate, 4 miles from Windsor, containing 3000 acres, watered by the Eastern Creek. Homestead consists of a neat cottage and outhouses, fenced paddocks, &c. Riverstone Railway station is on the estate. Apply Mr. McCulloch, King-street.

RESIDENCE, commanding a most magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean, Sydney harbour, and Botany Bay, with spacious drawing and dining rooms, lofty and well ventilated bedrooms, bath-room, butler's pantry, dry, coach-house, stables, fowl-house, dairy, delightful garden, lawn and shrubberies, large vegetable garden, orchard, and paddocks; water laid on all over the premises, and every convenience for a gentleman's family. Particulars, apply to A. S. Leathes, Esq., on the premises; or to Josiah Harrup, Esq., Randwick; or to Messrs. Bradley and Newton, Auctioneers, 239, George-

ORK VILLAS, Ashfield, facing the station; one
vacant. Apply to Mr. Whitney.)
MITTELL'S HOUSES, Bathurst-street, 10s to 30s.
Water, grates, blinds, and every comfort.)

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD AND
SYDNEY MAIL.
ADVERTISEMENTS received by—
Gordon and Gotch, 281, George-street, opposite Hunter-

. B. Lee, Lower George-street.
 . Larter, Upper South Head Road.
 . Maca, Pierce, Yurong and Stanley st., Woolloomooloo.
 . Davey, opposite National School, Paddington.
 . RABURN, grocer, Balmain.
 . West, Newtown and Cook's River.
 . Joseph Hinchcliff, Waterloo.
 . William C. Leslie, Circulating Library, Paramatta-st.
 . E. Davey, Boot Warehouse, North Shore.
 . Hogan, tobacconist, King-street East.

DAILY MORNING HERALD.
Subscription—\$4 per annum; if sent through the
Office, \$4 10s. per annum.
CASH TERMS OF ADVERTISING.
Two lines, and under One shilling.
Four lines, ditto Two shillings.
Six lines, ditto Three shillings.
Eight lines, ditto Four shillings.
Ten lines, ditto Five shillings.
1s. (three pence) per line for every additional line for
each insertion.

* All advertisements under six lines will be charged advertiser's account, if booked.
Births, Deaths, and Marriages, &c. each insertion.
B.—Advertisers in the country can remit payment by any Order or Postage Stamp.

Printed and Published by JOHN FARRAR and Sons,
at the Office of the *Wilmington Herald*, Pitt and Hunter
streets, Monday, January 6th, 1886.

